

January 20, 2023

Dear Community Members:

In 2022, the SABAA team and many dedicated community volunteers relentlessly worked on several projects and events; and executed and delivered them because of your genuine in-person and virtual participation, generosity, and kindness! With all these considerations, we want to share with you the following *2022 accomplishments summary*:

- 1. Joint Collaboration: SABAA, HBB, and BMANA-CA The Sacramento Area Bangladeshi-American Association (SABAA), Humanity Beyond Barriers (HBB), and Bangladesh Medical Association of North America-California Chapter (BMANA-CA) collaboratively worked to ensure our community members that these organizations are working together for the well-being of our community members. SABAA, HBB, and BMANA-CA, under their mission, worked on individual and collaborative projects to address social, educational, philanthropic, and medical needs in crisis such as in this pandemic, California wildfires, or in the situation of other individuals or collective needs. We had projects helping the needy here locally and in Bangladesh to save lives during the pandemic lockdown time, helping wildfire victims of the neighboring community, and spreading science-based facts in the midst of mis- and disinformation since the pandemic began. With continued engagement and collaboration, these organizations will remain focused on our community's well-being as we proceed. February 5, 2022
- Career Search Workshop (Virtual) The purpose of this workshop was to provide tools to interested community individual who wants to learn more about joining the State and Federal Government workforce. February 19, 2022
- First College Admission Workshop (Virtual) The purpose of this workshop was to provide tools to the interested student who wants to learn more about how to apply, what to look for, and what to expect. It was a great turnout. April 9, 2022
- 4. Eid Adda (in-person) The Eid Adda was simply magnificent because of the unprecedented participation of our community friends and families, varieties of mouthwatering foods, and fabulous performances from local adults and youth performers. We thanked our community volunteers who brought desserts and helped with the event logistics. In addition, a few prints and electronic news media in Bangladesh covered the Eid Adda celebration. Please enjoy reading the news below. May 2, 2022

RTV News click <u>here</u> City News Dhaka click <u>here</u> The Daily Campus click <u>here</u>

 Congratulate 2022 Graduates – Recognized 2022 Graduates from our community for their extraordinary talents and success from preschool, kindergarten, primary school, middle school, high school, college, or university. May 18, 2022

- 6. SABAA & HBB Joint Flood Relief Bangladesh Project On May 19th, SABAA launched the "2022 Flood Relief Bangladesh" project. Later, Humanity Beyond Barriers (HBB) joined SABAA to make it a collaborative project to help the flood victims in Bangladesh. Jointly, we raised and collected a total of \$2,112. Of the contributions you made to this project, 100 percent went to the disadvantaged flood victim families in various parts of Sylhet and Sunamganj district areas in Bangladesh. With this collected fund, we distributed food and other essentials for one week and served a total of 250 needy families! Together, we commend our community's support and generous donations to this dire situation. In addition, we thanked and acknowledged the field volunteers in Bangladesh who worked relentlessly to ensure the aid was delivered and distributed appropriately. Indeed, it was a success! June 20, 2022
- 7. Flood Relief for Northeastern Bangladesh Project SABAA launched the second phase of our flood relief program, the "2022 Flood Relief for Northeastern Bangladesh" project in July 2022. With your collaboration and genuine contributions, we collected a total of \$3,224. The contributions you made to this project, 100 percent, went to the vulnerable and disadvantaged flood victim families in several districts of Bangladesh.

This project had two categories: 1) General Relief Assistance and 2) Need-based Relief Assistance to ensure your contributions provide the best services and benefits to needy people. Two local organizations, **Prantik Foundation** and **Chayatal Bangladesh** carried out this project. The volunteers from both organizations worked relentlessly to complete the task. In addition, our dedicated liaisons from here coordinated the efforts with both local organizations in Bangladesh. Many thanks to them.

### **\*** General Relief Assistance

Many volunteers from both organizations including university professors and students reached out to the most flood-affected areas in different districts. Part of the collected funding was utilized to distribute food, medicine, and other cooking essentials for *over 299 needy families* in affected areas of Rangpur, Sylhet, Maulavibazar, and Sherpur to provide livelihood support!

#### \* Need-based Relief Assistance

We provided financial support to 50 flood-affected students so that they can continue their education. We provided help to 23 families who received livestock such as poultry and goats so that they can support their families. In addition, financial support was given to a small business establishment to continue its business. Please click the links below for media coverage, pictures, and videos about our flood relief program in Bangladesh.

# Agami News click here

**Central News Bangladesh** click <u>here</u> **Pictures of Food Distribution** click <u>here</u> **Videos of Food Distribution** click <u>here</u>

- 2022 California Primary Election Informed Community about the Primary Election date and provided County Election Offices and a list of Candidates links. June 6, 2022
- 9. Picnic and Eid-ul Adha (In-Person) An excellent outdoor gathering that allowed us to catch up with community friends and families and introduce new families since the pandemic started last year. With an informal cultural program, outdoor adults' and kids' games, BBQ, and yummy foods really made this program very enjoyable. July 17, 2022
- **10.** *Camping at Findley Campground, Sierraville, CA* This year there were 27 families including kids and a few daytime campers who joined enthusiastically to have some exciting fun together.

The team SABAA planned and worked relentlessly on logistics to serve an estimated 70-80 people at the campsite during our two-night stay. In addition, many volunteers have provided their undivided attention and assistance to organizers for their heartfelt support from shopping, cleaning, cooking, contributing food, singing, laughing, joking, playing cards, to hiking activities. August 12-14, 2022

- 11. UC Davis Pediatric Cancer Program SABAA has supported and sponsored the UC Davis Pediatric Cancer Program since pre-pandemic. As part of Shashwati Roy's annual charitable fundraising activities, the 5K Fundraiser Walk was held at the Johnny Cash Trail of Folsom. This year Shashwati Roy along with our community member Towhid Rahman invited us to participate in and support the 5K Walk. This was a youth-organized event with multiple community participation. From our community, Aafreen, Sariya, Zayna, and Arshiya spearheaded this event and worked in all aspects of the event. Approximately, 10,000 children under the age of 15 have already been diagnosed with cancer this year. With our community support, we raised and donated \$400 for this great cause. It was a great success! October 9, 2022
- Consular Services SABAA organized and facilitated the Consular Services in the Sacramento area and the Consul General of Bangladesh provided- No Visa Required Visa, Dual Citizenship Visa, Attestation, Machine Readable Passport, and Visa Renewal services. October 29, 2022
  - On behalf of the SABAA Executive Committee and the Bangladeshi community in the greater Sacramento area we officially invited the new Consul General Ms. Samia Anjum and her team for the above mobile full services from the Los Angeles Consulate. September 1, 2022
- 13. Second College Admission Workshop (Virtual) The purpose of this workshop was to provide tools to the interested student who wants to learn more about how to apply, what to look for, and what to expect. The SABAA team invites UC Davis professors, professionals, and a few young and exuberant college and university students from our community to the panel to share their thoughts and personal experiences to answer your questions. It was a great turnout. November 5, 2022
- 14. Bijoy Dibosh (51st Anniversary) Celebration We want to convey our humble gratitude and sincere appreciation to all community members, talented youth and adult performers in the cultural program, Bijoy Mela stall-representers, and volunteers including kids who attended, participated, and supported the celebration of Mohan Bijoy Dibosh, 2022. The Bijoy Dibosh commemorates the birth of Bangladesh as a free nation, and it was indeed a joyous feeling for SABAA to arrange this special festive event for the community. Over 300 people attended the festival on December 17, 2022. This event was a huge success with a fabulous cultural program, Bijoy Mela, and varieties of mouthwatering foods, other commodities, and services. We hope you have enjoyed this gala.

### A few highlights of this magnificent event are:

- SABAA Executive Committee decided to give an annual achievement award every year starting the year 2021 to an adult, a youth, or an organization for a significant contribution to our society. This award has two parts: 1) a recognition certificate, and 2) a cash award of \$250. The Uddin Family Fund (UFF) is a continuous commitment from Dr. Meskath Uddin. SABAA commends the Uddin family for their commitment.
- This year SABAA recognition and UFF cash awards went to Mrs. Saayma Shahid (Rima) for her significant contributions and dedication to the Bangladeshi community.

SABAA organized Mohan Bijoy Dibosh, 2022 celebration is covered by a few prints and electronics <u>news media in Bangladesh</u>. Please read the news below. December 17, 2022

Kaler Kantho click <u>here</u> Daily Mirror of Bangladesh click <u>here</u> Dhaka Post click <u>here</u> Sangbad Post click <u>here</u> Muhurto News click <u>here</u> CNB click <u>here</u> IM News click <u>here</u>

**15.** *SABAA Inspires Community Youth Students* – SABAA provided recommendation letters to students as well as offered volunteer hours to other students for community services.

Please check the SABAA website for detailed updates on the above-highlighted projects and events, including many pictures and media news from a few TV channels of Bangladesh. We look forward to conducting SABAA businesses, events, and other projects for this year and the years to come with your continuous and sincere support.

Keep in mind, the **SABAA platform is yours to join anytime** to promote and flourish our next generation to the mainstream of the USA. If you want to solicit positive ideas to create an impact in our society and our next generation, please drop an email, text, or call any of the SABAA executive members to discuss. In the meantime, please take care of yourself and each other. We wish you all the best in 2023. Together, we can always succeed!